

## Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CAB-02 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00

      DOTE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 CIEP-01 FAA-00 L-03 /033 W

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R 111624Z AUG 76

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3879

INFO AMEMBASSY BERN

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMCONSUL NICE

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAIR, FR, US

SUBJECT: CIVAIR: TWA FILING FOR GENEVA-NICE SERVICE

1. TWA HAS ALERTED US TO LIKELY CONTROVERSIAL FEATURE OF WINTER SCHEDULE JUST FILED WITH DGAC, NAMELY EXTENSION OF NEW YORK-GENEVA 707 SERVICE TO TERMINATE IN NICE. FILING PROPOSES COMMENCEMENT SERVICE TO NICE VIA GENEVA EFFECTIVE SEPT. 9, THOUGH TWA INFORMS US ACTUAL TARGET DATE IS OCTOBER 31 WHEN WINTER SCHEDULE GOES INTO EFFECT. EARLIER EFFECTIVE DATE USED FOR PURPOSE ELICITING EARLY RESPONSE IF, AS EXPECTED, DGAC REACTION TO GENEVA-NICE FILING IS NEGATIVE.

2. DEPT. WILL RECALL TWA SUSPENDED EVEN BEFORE COMMENCING SERVICE TO NICE ON ROUTE IT OBTAINED BY VIRTUE OF ROUTE SWAP WITH PANAM. TWA AT PRESENT HAS NO INTENTION REACTIVATING THIS OLD PANAM ROUTE TO NICE VIA BARCELONA SINCE NICE WOULD NOT GENERATE ENOUGH TRAFFIC TO WARRANT ONWARD ROUTING OF 747 EQUIPMENT NOW SERVING BARCELONA. PROPOSED NEW YORK-NICE SERVICE VIA GENEVA WOULD OPERATE WITHOUT TRAFFIC RIGHTS BETWEEN GENEVA AND NICE.

3. TWA WASHINGTON IS SAID TO EXPECT DGAC WILL DISAP-

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PROVE GENEVA-NICE PORTION OF SCHEDULE FILING, BUT THAT

AFTER THIS INITIAL DENIAL DGAC CAN BE PREVAILED UPON TO REVERSE ITS POSITION SINCE "FRENCH OWE TWA A COUPLE OF THINGS". TWA PARIS REPS ARE NOT SO SANGUINE, HOWEVER, AS ARE THEIR WASHINGTON COLLEAGUES CONCERNING EVENTUAL READINESS OF DGAC TO BE WON OVER. NOR ARE WE.

4. BOTH AIR FRANCE AND SWISSAIR OPERATE SCHEDULED SERVICES BETWEEN GENEVA AND NICE. NOTWITHSTANDING PRO-FESSED BELIEF OF TWA WASHINGTON THAT SWISS AUTHORITIES CAN BE WON OVER, WE WONDER WHETHER SWISSAIR WOULD WELCOME TWA COMPETITION CUTTING INTO NICE ORIGIN CONNECTIONS AT GENEVA WITH SWISSAIR'S SERVICE TO NEW YORK. SIMILARLY, TWA SERVICE TO NEW YORK VIA GENEVA WOULD ALSO COMPETE WITH AIR FRANCE'S NICE-NEW YORK TRAFFIC VIA A PARIS CONNECTION. IN ADDITION TO THESE COMPETITIVE REASONS, WE NOTE THAT OPERATION GENEVA-NICE LEG BY TWA WOULD ANYWAY APPEAR CONTRARY TO ROUTE 2 OF US-FRANCE CIVIL BILATERAL, WHICH PERMITS US CARRIERS TO SERVE MARSEILLE AND NICE ONLY VIA SPAIN.

5. WOULD APPRECIATE ANY BACKGROUND DEPT. MIGHT HAVE ON THIS MATTER. UNLESS INSTRUCTED TO THE CONTRARY, EMBASSY WOULD NOT PROPOSE TO INTERVENE SHOULD DGAC DISAPPROVE TWA'S FILING FOR GENEVA-NICE ROUTE.  
GAMMON

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